



**STAR
WARS**

GOLDEN AGE
OF THE SITH
3 OF 5

\$2.95 US
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STAR WARS TALES OF THE JEDI™

The Golden Age of the Sith



DIRECT SALES



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The Fabric of an Empire

A thousand years before the Great Sith War and the defeat of Exar Kun, two impetuous young hyperspace explorers, the brother and sister team of Gav and Jori Daragon, launch themselves into the unknown. Fleeing from a chain of bad decisions in the Republic worlds controlled by Empress Teta, they set a distant course at random — and land in the middle of the fabled Sith Empire!

Their ship, *Starbreaker 12*, appears over the mausoleum world of Korriban, where a funeral procession of Sith Lords has come to inter their ruler, the Dark Lord Marka Ragnos. On the steps of a monumental tomb, glimpses of an underlying power struggle appear: two of the most powerful Sith Lords vie for the new title of Dark Lord and control of an empire.


Ludo Kressh wishes to follow in the footsteps of his predecessor, to keep the Sith Empire stable and prosperous, not to overextend their resources but to maintain a tight grip on the Sith people, whom they have dominated for millennia. His rival Naga Sadow feels the ancient empire is growing stagnant and needs to extend its boundaries, to conquer new worlds and bring new blood into their grasp. Only moments after the dead Dark Lord is entombed, Sadow and Kressh engage in a vicious duel — but their battle is halted by the spectral image of Marka Ragnos rising from the crypt to warn them that the fate of the entire empire is in their hands.

Just then, Gav and Jori land among them, innocent explorers hoping to make their fortune by establishing trade. But the gathered Sith Lords see the strangers' arrival as clear evidence of Ragnos' warning. Gav and Jori are captured, about to become pawns in a power struggle that will span two empires . . .


CENTRAL WORLD OF THE SITH LORDS... A NEUTRAL PLANET WHERE THE DESCENDANTS OF POWERFUL, EXILED JEDI CAN CONDUCT THE BUSINESS OF AN EMPIRE.

A PLANET WHERE THE GREATEST AMONG THEM, THE DARK LORD OF THE SITH REIGNS.

BUT WITH THE DEATH OF MARKA RAGNOR, THE SITH HAVE NO DARK LORDS... ONLY CONTENTERS.




AND THE BUSINESS OF AN EMPIRE MUST GO ON.




...A CRISIS THAT WILL SHAKE THE SITH EMPIRE TO ITS FOUNDATIONS...

ESPECIALLY IN THE FACE OF WHAT MANY PERCEIVE TO BE AN OUTSIDE THREAT.



THIS IS THE PRECURSOR INVASION FROM OUTSIDE THE BOUNDARIES OF OUR EMPIRE.

WE CANNOT EXPECT PEACEFUL VISITORS WHO MERELY WANT TRADE—DO NOT BELIEVE THEIR INNOCENT STORY.




THEY ARE SPIES FOR THE REPUBLIC, AND IF WE ALLOW THEM TO LEAVE, THEY WILL BRING BACK THEIR FORCES TO PLUNDER THE SITH EMPIRE!

YES—WE SHOULD EXECUTE SAY AND JORI DEXAGON AND OBLITERATE ALL EVIDENCE THEY WERE EVER HERE.


YOU SPEAK FROM MINDLESS FEAR, LUDO KRESH.

DO NOT BE SO QUICK TO DESTROY AN OPPORTUNITY.



ANCIENT SITHS LOST HIS DUEL AGAINST MARKS HUNDREDS CENTURIES BEFORE...

...BUT RATHER THAN SURRENDERING TO DEATH, SITHS LUDO HAS SITH POWERS TO KEEP HIMSELF ALIVE.



LUDO SHOULD BE UNFOLDING SO WE CAN'T SEE THE CHANGING UNIVERSE AROUND HIM.

WE CAN'T RISK SUCH A COURSE, SITHUS, IF YOU AND NAGA SADOW ARE WRONG! THE SITH EMPIRE LOSES EVERYTHING!

EVEN IF I AM WRONG, WE LOSE NOTHING.

WE CAN'T RISK SUCH A COURSE, SITHUS, IF YOU AND NAGA SADOW ARE WRONG! THE SITH EMPIRE LOSES EVERYTHING!

EVEN IF I AM WRONG, WE LOSE NOTHING.

WHO CARES IF MY COATS THE LIVES OF TWO WORTHLESS EXPLORERS?

WE LOSE A HUNDRED
SCORE NEW WORLDS
TO DOMINATE... THE RICHES
OF A THOUSAND
RACES...

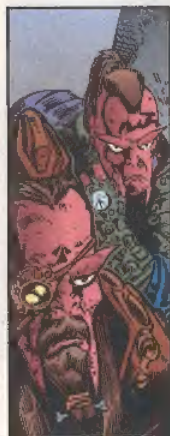
...THE
CONTROL OF THE
VERY GALAXY
ITSELF!

WE LOSE A HUNDRED
SCORE NEW WORLDS
TO DOMINATE... THE RICHES
OF A THOUSAND
RACES...

...THE
CONTROL OF THE
VERY GALAXY
ITSELF!

5

RODIN CONTINUES HIS IMPASSIONED PLEA.





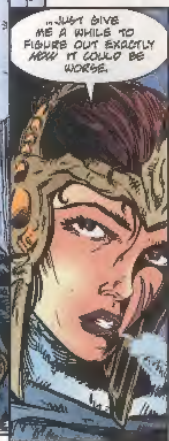
BENEATH THE
PORTRESS
ON ZIOT...

...PRISONER
LEVEL...




ALL GREAT
EXPLORERS HAVE THEIR
BAD DAYS, JORI...

YEAH,
I'M SURE THINGS
COULD BE
WORSE...




...JUST GIVE
ME A WHILE TO
FIGURE OUT EXACTLY
HOW IT COULD BE
WORSE.






PRISONERS,
WE HAVE DECIDED
YOUR FATE.



YOUR PRESENCE
IS TOO GREAT A RISK TO
OUR EMPIRE.


THE COUNCIL HAS
DECIDED IT WOULD BE BEST
TO EXECUTE YOU AS SOON
AS POSSIBLE.



NOT MUCH OF A TRIAL--WE DIDN'T
EVEN TESTIFY!

WE DIDN'T
GIVE YOU ANY
INFORMATION
WHATSOEVER!

YOUR
INFORMATION
WAS IRRELEVANT TO
OUR DELIBERATIONS.



WE WILL
DECIDE THE DISPOSITION
OF YOUR SHIP IN OUR
NEXT SESSION.

HEY,
WAIT! DON'T WE AT
LEAST GET A LAST
MEAL?

I'M GOING
TO FILE A COMPLAINT
WITH, WELL, WITH
SOMEBODY!



I GUESS
WE'LL NEVER GET RICH
NOW... SHOULD HAVE JUST LET
AARBA THE HUTT KEEP
STARBREAKER 12.

I FEEL SO
INSIGNIFICANT!



THEY'RE
JUST AFRAID JORI.
WE SURE MUST HAVE
GIVEN THEM A
SCARE!



I
WONDER
WHERE OUR
SHIP IS...

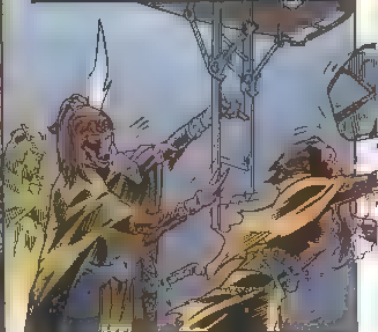
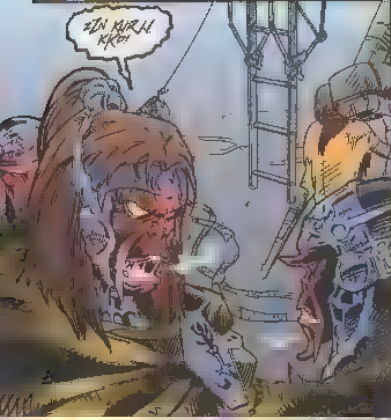
I
WANT TO GO
HOME.



101ST FORTRESS HOLDING BAY
WHERE STARBREAKER 12 HAS
BEEN IMPOUNDED.




WITH INCREASED
TENSIONS AND
FACTIONS AMONG
THE 5TH LORDS,
NEGA SHADOW'S
INFLUENCE IS NO
LONGER ENOUGH TO
GUARANTEE
UNQUESTIONED
PRIME.



SEEKING ANOTHER TARGET FOR THEIR ANGER. THE FRUSTRATED GUARDS INTIMIDATE AND DRIVE OFF THE HAPLESS 6TH SQUAD






AGO SADDON'S PRIVATE
STRONGHOLD ON THE
DARK SIDE OF THE
MOON KHAR SARIN.


SUNLIGHT NEVER
TOUCHES HERE...

...BETTER TO HIDE
BETTER TO FINISH
CERTAIN ARTS.




GOOD.
HE'S FOUND THE
WEAPONS.

NOW WE
CAN SET ALL
THIS UNHEALTHY IN
ACTION.



"END TRANSMISSION."



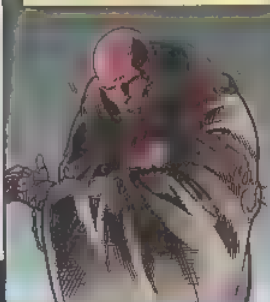
LUDD
KRESSH SEES
THE POSSIBILITY OF
RENEWED CONTACT
WITH THE
REPUBLIC AS A
FRIGHTENING
THING.

...HE DOES NOT
SEE THE POTENTIAL
FOR OUR GREATER
GLORY.

WE ALREADY HAVE RICHES
OPULENCE, DECADENT
WEALTH

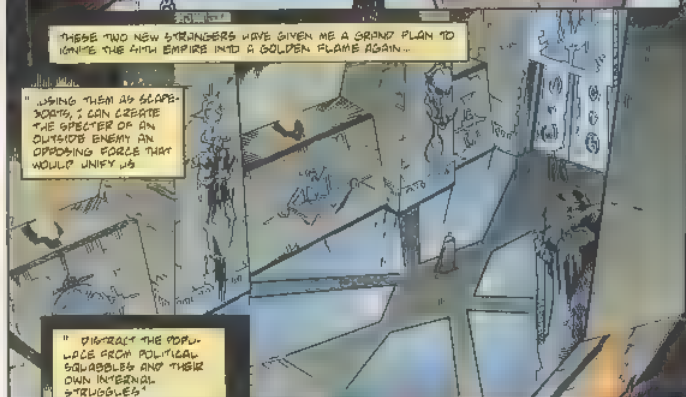


"BUT AFTER THE GOLD HAS GROWN
TARNISHED, LONG AFTER THE FORGE
FIRES HAVE DIED

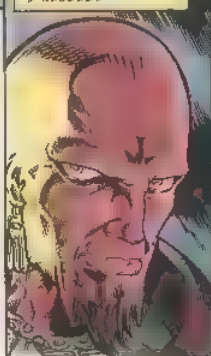


THESE TWO NEW STRANGERS HAVE GIVEN ME A GRAND PLAN TO
IGNITE THE 4TH EMPIRE INTO A GOLDEN FLAME AGAIN...

"USING THEM AS SCAPE-
GOATS, I CAN CREATE
THE SPECTER OF AN
OUTSIDE ENEMY AN
OPPOSING FORCE THAT
WOULD UNIFY US

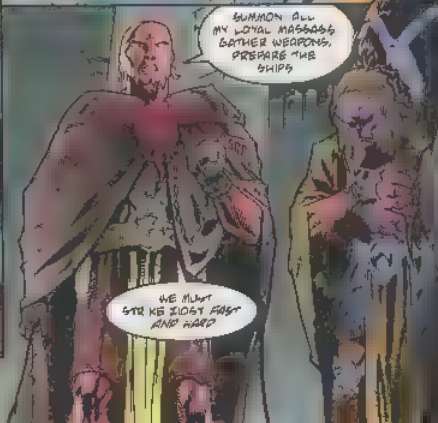


"DISTRACT THE POPU-
LACE FROM POLITICAL
SQUABBLES AND THEIR
OWN INTERNAL
STRUGGLES"



SUMMON ALL
MY LOYAL MASSES
GATHER WEAPONS,
PREPARE THE
SHIPS

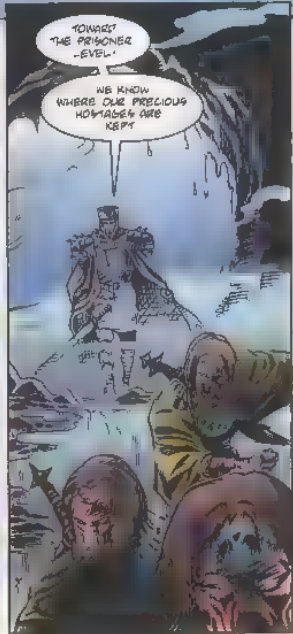
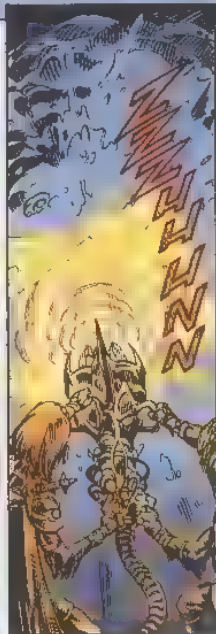
WE MUST
STRIKE FIRST
AND HARD



Z
...NOT FOR REST...

...AT THE HOUR OF DEEPEST GIVES
DEEPEST DARKNESS...

ON A WORLD WHERE
T IS ALWAYS NIGHT
ALWAYS COLD.



TOWARD
THE PRISONER
-EVEN!

WE KNOW
WHERE OUR PRECIOUS
HOSTAGES ARE
KEPT



JOE AND JOHN PARSONS SIT TOGETHER AT THE PROVED END OF THEIR HOPE... WITH NO COMPANY BUT EACH OTHER...

IT'S SO QUIET HERE, SO COLD.

AT LEAST OUR PARENTS DIED ACCOMPLISHING SOMETHING

RUNNING SUPPLIES TO THE DEFENSES IN EXPRESS TENTS UNIFORM WAR. THEY MADE A DIFFERENCE

WE JUST GOT LOST, AND NOW WE'RE GOING TO BE KILLED

TALK ABOUT DREAMS COMING TRUE... WHERE DID WE GO WRONG, BOY?

I SHOULD HAVE CONTINUED MY JEDI TRAINING... THEY TOLD ME I HAD THE TALENT, THE POTENTIAL...

I HEAR SOMEBODY COMING... IT'S THEM

WELL, I FOR ONE DON'T INTEND TO GO DOWN WITHOUT LAUGHING A FEW BLOODY NOSES OR BROKEN BONES

PREFERABLY NOT OUR OWN

ALL I TOOK WAS A RANDOM SPIN OF THE NAVY COMPUTER COORDINATES WE COULD HAVE ENDED UP ANYWHERE IN THE GALAXY...

...BUT OUR RATE TOOK US HERE

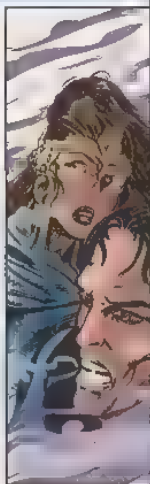




IT WAS
NECESSARY
FOR THE
EMPEROR



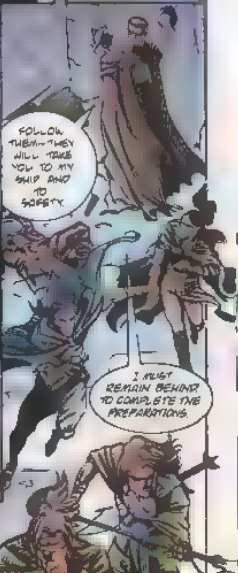
OUR
COUNSEL IS SET.
OUR FUTURE IS
NOW
THEY TALK



I AM HERE
TO RESCUE YOU. COME
WITH ME, OR STAY HERE
AND DIE

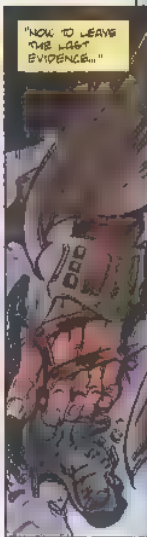
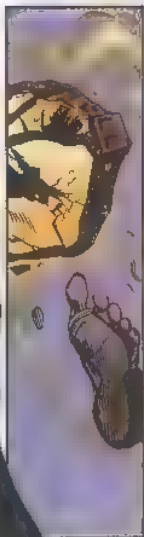
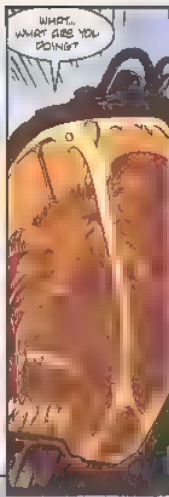
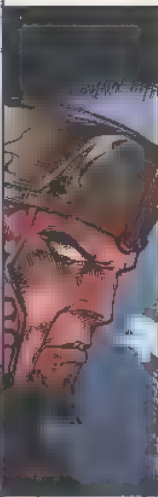
SOUNDS
LIKE A GOOD CHOICE
TO ME

I KNOW
OUR LUCK
WOULD TURN--
LET'S GO



FOLLOW
THEM--THEY
WILL TAKE
YOU TO MY
SHIP AND
TO SAFETY

I MUST
REMAIN BEHIND
TO COMPLETE THE
PREPARATIONS



IT IS NO AROUND THE PRIMARY
WORLD OF KHAIR DELBA,
GADON'S SHIP APPROACHES
HIS HIDDEN CRATER STRONG
HOLD ON THE DARK SIDE OF
KHAIR SHIAN.

BEING HIS TWO
HOSTAGES, FILING IN A
STRUGGLE NOW
GADON HIMSELF HAS
RETURNED

WHY AND WHY
ARE JUST HAPPY
TO BE ALIVE

-I HAVE
ANOTHER URGENT
ERRAND THAT DRAGS
ME BACK TO
ZOST

"TAKE THEM TO WHERE THEY
WONT BE DISTURBED."



I TOLD YOU
SO! WE HAVE BEEN
DITALKED BY THE
REPUBLIC

WE
SHOULD HAVE
EXECUTED THE
TWO CAPTIVES
IMMEDIATELY



"WE WAITED TOO LONG--
NOW DISASTER IS UPON
US!"



I CAME
AS FAST AS I
COULD. WHAT WAS
HAPPENING?

WHAT IS THE
EMERGENCY?



WE'VE BEEN
ATTACKED!

A
RAID FROM THE
REPUBLIC!

--GUARDS MURDERED! THE
PRISONERS FREED!

WAIT, WAIT!
WHO DID THIS?
HOW DO YOU
KNOW?

YOU THOUGHT THOSE
TWO SPIES WERE AN OPPORTUNITY! NOW THEY HAVE
BROUGHT A MILITARY RAID UPON US... CAN A FULL-SCALE
INVASION BE FAR BEHIND?



WE
FOUND THIS
WEAPON AT THE
SITE OF THE
STRUGGLE.

IT IS
TOTALLY UNLIKE
OUR OWN
DEVICES.



YOU ARE
CORRECT--I HAVE
NEVER SEEN
WEAPONS SUCH
AS THESE.

THE MARKINGS
REMINDE ME OF THE
SYMBOLS ON THE
CAPTURED SHIP.



WE MUST
TIGHTEN OUR
DEFENSES, PUT THE
ENTIRE 54TH EMPIRE
ON ALERT!

THE TIME
HAS COME TO
FIGHT FOR OUR
LIVES!



THEY'VE KILLED OLD
SIMUS!

THEY ARE
MONSTERS.

SIMUS...
SIMUS...



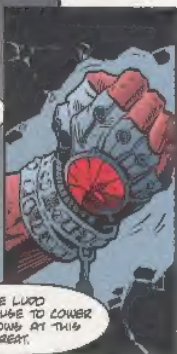
"I REMEMBER WHEN HE
LOST HIS DUEL WITH
MARCA RAGNOS...

"BUT HE NEVER GAVE
UP, NEVER FAILED US..."



SIMUS
WAS MY MENTOR,
MY TEACHER...THE
NOBLEST AMONG
US...

...WE
ALWAYS DEFERRED HIS
WISDOM.



UNLIKE LUDD
KREESH, I REFUSE TO COWER
IN THE SHADOWS AT THIS
THREAT.

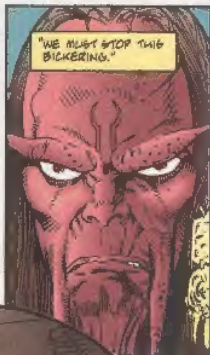
I REFUSE
TO TREMBLE LIKE A
COWARD AND WAIT FOR
THE ENEMY TO COME
AFTER US.

WE
MUST FIGHT
BACK!



WE MUST
UNITE!

WE MUST
PREPARE!



"WE MUST STOP THIS
BICKERING."



IN SUCH
TROUBLED TIMES,
WE DO NOT DARE ALLOW
OURSELVES TO BE WITH-
OUT A LEADER.

MARKA
RASNOB IS
DEAD, AND WE
MUST CHOOSE A
NEW DARK
LORD.



AND
IT MUST BE
ME.



YOU HAVE HELP US BACK LONG ENOUGH, KEEPING THE SITH EMPIRE FROM ITS GREAT DESTINY.





"NEVER! I
WILL NOT TAKE
PART IN THE
DESTRUCTION OF
EVERYTHING
I KNOW."

"I'LL TAKE
MY SUPPORTERS...
WE WILL NEVER JOIN
IN YOUR FOLLY! I WILL
BE THE TRUE
DARK LORD!"



"WE DO NOT NEED LORD KRESSH
OR HIS FACTIONS, LET THEM SO
SHIVER IN FEAR--WHILE WE
CONQUER A GALAXY!"

"EACH OF
YOU CONTROLS A DOZEN
WORLDS--CALL YOUR SHIPS, YOUR
WARRIORS, TO IMMEDIATE
BATTLE!"

"WE
MUST STRIKE
THE REPUBLIC
FIRST!"

EXT: PAWNS OF A SITH LORD